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ASSOCIATION OF
AMERICAN RAILROADS
OFFICE OF INFORMATION AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, July 9, 1981 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended July 4 totaled an estimated 17.1 billion ton-miles, 18.4 percent above the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today. Both weeks included the Independence Day holiday.

The cumulative volume for the first 27 weeks of 1981 was an estimated 467.4 billion ton-miles, 1.5 percent lower than the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended July 4 totaled 405,271 cars, 17.3 percent above 1980, but 10.4 percent lower than the preceding non-holiday week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were up 40.6 percent in the East, 15.5 percent in the South, and 5.8 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1980, 15 of the 21 commodity groups were up, with coal loadings showing an increase of 40,210 cars, or 58.0 percent. Twenty of the 21 groups were down from the preceding non-holiday week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads during the week ended June 27 totaled 35,079 cars, up 7.1 percent from the corresponding week of 1980, and 62,285 trailers and/or containers, up 2.1 percent from last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 26 weeks of the year was 843,450 cars, 0.7 percent lower than last year, and 1,525,140 trailers and/or containers, down 1.3 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 7/4/81:

	Loadings in Week ended July 4, 1981		Change from Corresponding Week 1980			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	23,420	D	7,321	23.8	D	2,448	9.5
Other farm products	3,137	D	850	21.3	D	721	18.7
Metallic ores	36,822	I	8,164	28.5	D	2,264	5.8
Coal	109,480	I	40,210	58.0	D	16,426	13.1
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	12,658	I	344	2.8	D	1,152	8.3
Nonmetallic minerals	14,558	I	16	0.1	I	113	0.8
Grain mill products	12,179	D	1,674	12.1	D	1,610	11.7
Food and kindred products	13,725	D	1,242	8.3	D	2,308	14.4
Primary forest products	14,920	D	317	2.1	D	3,457	18.8
Lumber and wood products except furniture	6,841	I	142	2.1	D	1,841	21.2
Pulp, paper and allied products	18,388	I	636	3.6	D	1,690	8.4
Chemicals and allied products	23,886	I	2,625	12.3	D	1,654	6.5
Petroleum products	4,505	D	67	1.5	D	327	6.8
Stone, clay and glass products	13,193	I	133	1.0	D	871	6.2
Coke	6,432	I	2,871	80.6	D	711	10.0
Metals and products	14,967	I	3,123	26.4	D	965	6.1
Motor vehicles and equipment	16,790	I	3,984	31.1	D	3,445	17.0
Waste and scrap materials	10,471	I	2,556	32.3	D	1,653	13.6
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	9,481	I	701	8.0	D	625	6.2
All other carloads	39,244	I	5,855	17.5	D	2,985	7.1
LCL traffic	174	I	12	7.4	D	25	12.6
Total Cars Loaded	405,271	I	59,901	17.3	D	47,065	10.4
Corresponding week of 1980	345,370						

	1981	1980	% Change	
Total Cars Loaded (27 weeks)	11,174,239	11,828,405	D	5.5
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):				
26 Weeks cumulative	450.3	460.2	D	2.2
Week ended July 4	17.1	14.4	I	18.4
27 Weeks cumulative	467.4	474.6	D	1.5

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